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the basis of a hypothetical case whether the court would go that way. I'm suggesting that as with all commissions in the state of Nebraska, there is always the danger, the possibility that someone might bring a lawsuit. But yet it has happened very rarely. We have protected members of commissions and of boards and committees backing them up with legal help if they get sued. I think that's about as far as we should go.

SENATOR KEYES: In other words we are actually by our own implication, limiting the committee to what it will actually do. It will not go out and actually dig into it for fear that it could be sued.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: No, I'm not saying that at all. I don't think that we're limiting them at all. We are limiting them only to the extent that they are going to be prudent and careful as they should be in getting any information, but we're not stopping them from getting it because they are afraid of being sued. Only Senator Carpenter mentioned that. I suppose to be realistic it depends upon whether you have a million dollars in the bank or savings or whether you've got much less, too.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Carpenter is a man that most everybody in the State of Nebraska knows as he knows him. In other words, Carpenter really is a myth in many ways. However, it's a rare time when anybody will attack Senator Carpenter on his knowledge, his experience, his integrity, his honesty, and his loyalty as a Nebraskan. His shenanigans, you bet he gets attacked. But Senator Carpenter, as a member of this body, worked hard and long on election reform and campaign reform and I think put many meaningful words in the statutes that shows to me that he is interested in having clean elections and accountable lobbyists and accounted elected officials. I believe that Senator Carpenter is imminently qualified to serve on the Ethics Commission. What are we talking about on the floor of the Legislature as we talk about Senator Carpenter's confirmation. A Carpenter ploy that we're all so familiar with is to change the issue. The issue now is not to confirm Carpenter because he doesn't have immunity. Now the job description was written and Carpenter traveled 350 miles to appear before our committee and say, I'm not going to take the job unless you change the law. Well that's OK with me; I think that's a fine statement. He could have also said he wasn't going to take the job unless something else was going to happen. We're not voting on that; we voting on Carpenter's ability to serve on this commission and I believe it to be superior. I do believe that this Legislature should confirm his appointment to the commission. If Carpenter doesn't want to serve, all he's got to do is resign. I see no reason why through his efforts, he can put the bee on this Legislature that we're not going to confirm him because we will not change the law. A double negative is a positive every time and we should confirm Carpenter. He's a man to be on this commission. Now if he's got the guts to tell the people in Nebraska that he's not going to serve, let him say so. But there's no reason to move that over to this Legislature. It doesn't belong here. Vote against rejection and let's confirm Carpenter.